

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: Steinhorst, et al.  
Serial No: 10/609,332  
Date Filed: June 26, 2003  
Confirmation No. 7931  
Group Art Unit: 2874  
Title: *Method and System for Upgrading a Fiber Optics Network*

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**4TH REQUEST FOR STATUS**

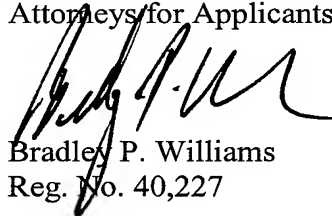
Please advise the status of the above-identified patent application. The Filing Receipt was mailed November 21, 2003 by the United States Patent and Trademark Office. Three previous Requests for Status were filed with the Patent and Trademark Office on August 23, 2004, July 29, 2005 and March 13, 2006. Applicants are again requesting the status of the first Office Action and status of this case.

Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.702(a)(1), it has been over fourteen months since the filing date of this Application and a Notification under 35 U.S.C. § 132 has not been received. Thus, a period of adjustment of patent term due to examination delay is accruing in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.703(a)(1).

If there are any matters that can be cleared up through a telephone conversation, please contact the undersigned attorney for Applicants at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.  
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Date: August 7, 2006

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